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ABSTRACT

This annotated bibliography is designed to survey the field of women in communication. The bibliography is centered on a specific context: who are and who were the women who worked in the communication field, and specifically, what were their writings like? The 56 annotations date from 1949 through 1990 and deal mostly with books (especially biographies), rather than articles. (NKA)

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Women in Communication : Annotated Bibliography

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Women in Communication : Annotated Bibliography

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October 1992

This bibliography grew out of the development of a course proposal for "Women in Communication." The bibliography's purpose was to survey the field from a specific contextual standpoint: who were and who are the women who worked in the communication field, and, specifically, what were their writings like?

Alpern, Sara (1987). Freda Kirchwey, A Woman of the Nation. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press.

Kirchwey joined the Nation in 1918, and from 1937 to 1955 served as owner, editor, and managing editor of the magazine. The text is an excellent statement on how suffrage became inexplicably intertwined with feminism. That is, she sought to explore the deeper underlying male/female perspectives that hampered women's social and professional advancement. A most fascinating book.

Barber, James D., and Barbara Kellerman. (1986). Women Leaders in American Politics. New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, Inc.

An excellent resource for women's research in general. The book includes the support and advancement women journalists' made in the nation's history. An excellent text for the classroom or for the researcher.

Beasley, Maurine, & Silver, Shelia Silver, (1972). Women in Media: A Documentary Sourcebook. Washington, D.C.: Women's Institute for Freedom of the Press.

Addresses some of the feminist press, "Ms." magazine for example. The real usefulness of this text is the actual stories, columns and articles many early women editors/writers published. Seems to have lifted the format of Schlipp's Great Women of the Press (1983); the first eleven chapters are on women whose biographies appeared in that text. However, rather than rehashing all notable women editors' biographies, Beasley has drawn upon the women's original work. Excellent source in that particular area.

#Beasley, Maurine (1989). Newspapers, Is There a New Majority Defining the News? In Pamela J. Creedon (Ed.). Women in Mass Communication.Challenging Gender Values (pp.180-194). Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

Women are not making it into management--those women with years of experience are not at the same level as men with the same years of experience. Beasley calls for the tracking of the large numbers of women entering the journalism market to ascertain if their careers fare better than those in the 1980s.

Broadcasting Magazine Editors (1982). The First 50 Years of Broadcasting. Broadcasting Publications, Inc.

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Book makes one paragraph note of the many numbers of women who took over men's jobs while men were at war in the 1940s. The text included an "Honor Roll" of the Fifth Estate--"Who's Been Who" in past 50 years of broadcasting (those who had appeared in "Our Respects" and "Profile" section in the magazine). Out of about 2,500 names, women comprise about 15 percent. The text did make note of Frieda Hennock as the first women FCC Commissioner in 1948. Notable for its honesty in revealing just how few women were in positions of authority. Otherwise, an excellent survey of the field.

Belford, Barbara (1986). Brilliant Bylines. A Biographical Anthology of Notable Newspaper Women in America. New York: Columbia University Press.

Provides biographies of 24 women, some of which address women's careers that have otherwise gone undocumented. This text is extremely well written, and demonstrates a useful example for some of the suggestions for scholarship offered in Women in Mass Communication (see Creedon).

Butler, Matilda, and William Paisley. (1980). Women and the Mass Media: Sourcebook for research and action. New York: Human Sciences Press.

A massive amount of information, and the bible of women's mass media research. A necessary text for the researcher and the teacher. Needs updating.

Charnley, Mitchell (1948). News By Radio. New York: MacMillan Co.

More of a textbook, but like Broadcasting Editors Magazine, it is an excellent resource for its silence about the women who were involved in broadcasting throughout the century.

Cheshire, Maxine (1978). Maxine Cheshire, Reporter. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

An excellent text in that it draws together from an insider's view the emergence of women into political coverage. Cheshire maintained that it was her last-minute call to cover the 1954 Democratic Convention that opened the doors to other women into political coverage. She believes she proved the usefulness of a woman's perspective in covering politics.

#Cline, Carolyn Garrett (1989). Public Relations, The $1 million Penalty for Being a Woman. In Pamela J. Creedon (Ed.) Women in Mass Communication, Challenging Gender Values (pp. 252-277). Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

She cites a $33,000 annual difference in salary between women and men in the field. She believes women will earn approximately $1.5 million less over a lifetime than men.

#Cramer, Judith A. (1989). Radio, A Woman's Place is on the Air. In Pamela J. Creedon (Ed.) Women in Mass Communication, Challenging Gender Values (pp. 214-226). Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

Cramer cites the dearth of research on women in radio. Few female teachers of radio and few public relations role models exist; hence, she asks that more female faculty and researchers be hired in the field.

Creedon, Pamela J. (Ed.) (1989). Women in Mass Communication,Challenging Gender Values. New York: Sage Publications.

A compilation of scholarly articles calling for a change of perspective and of research values concerning women's issues in mass communication. Articles are combined in two categories: "The

Academy" and "The Profession." A most interesting compilation. Discussions range from feminist perspectives in media law, changing the approach to journalism history by evaluating women's media roles from a societal context, changing perspectives on women "of color," research strategies for the glass-ceiling effect, teaching, economic impact on women in media. . . . This is a fine, fine text for scoping out research questions and new areas of study.

#Creedon, Pamela J. (1989). The Challenge of Re-Visioning Gender Values. In Pamela J. Creedon (Ed.) Women in Mass Communication, Challenging Gender Values (pp. 13-33). Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

Language is of utmost importance in this study as she seeks ways to challenge the male-dominant values. It is language that builds consensus to achieve what she considers important: a subjective truth. The language and perspective is rooted in deconstructionism.

#Dyer, Carolyn Stewart (1989). Feminist Perspectives on Media Law. In Pamela J. Creedon (Ed.) Women in Mass Communication, Challenging Gender Values (57-82). Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

Two key questions posed: If women wrote the law, how would it have been worded? And If women wrote the law what values would be central? An excellent perspective on gender, particularly female, values.

Eberhard, Wallace, & Lee Myers, Margaret (Fall 1988). Beyond the Locker Room: Women in Sports on Major Daily Newspapers. Journalism Quarterly 50 pp. 595-599.

Of 109 newspapers surveyed, less than one in 10 employed female sports writers. The author surveys the discrimination discovered in newspaper sports' departments and in the locker room itself.

Edwards, Julia (1988). Women of the World, The Great Foreign Correspondents. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company.

A fine, timely work on women working in the international press. She provides a solid study on the inroads women have made in foreign correspondence against oppressive odds. Edwards provides, within the text, a talented perspective of war correspondence as a vocation/craft. An interesting work--a credible spillover into feminist perspectives.

Evans, Sara M. (1989). Born for Liberty: A History of Women in America. New York: The Free Press.

An excellent survey of women throughout American history. A useful text for the classroom and the researcher. Also well written.

Fallaci, Oriana (1976). Interview With History. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

Useful in beginning news interviewing courses. She discusses the extensive background work she does before she goes into the interview. Also provides some of her more notable interviews. An interesting look at the extreme in interviewing styles, as opposed to the watered down lessons taught in journalism school. Her writing and interviewing is as interesting as the content.

Fuldheim, Dorothy (1966). I Laughed, I Cried, I Loved, A News Analyst's Love Affair with the World. Cleveland and New York: The World Publishing Co.

Fuldheim was apparently the first woman news anchor in 1947 on WEWS-TV in Cleveland; she was still broadcasting at the age of 83 in 1976. A broad and interesting look at history through her eyes. However, the text is a bit light and airy.

Furman, Bess (1949). Washington By-Line. Personal History of a Newspaperwoman. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.

A truly interesting book--a social history wrapped around bits and pieces of Furman's life. The text spans the most formative economic years of the century. Includes everything from personal anecdotes about the White House to national incidents that sparked debate in Congress.

#Gagnard, Alice (1989). A Socio-cultural Close-Up: Body Image in Advertising. In Pamela J. Creedon (Ed.)Women in Mass Communication. Challenging Gender Values (261-263). Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

The author did a content analysis of female body types in magazine advertising. Primarily restates the obvious--the "ideal" woman stereotype is still promoted and continues to inculcate the popular press advertising world.

Gelfman, Judith S. (1976)Women in Television News. New York and London: Columbia University Press.

A doctoral dissertation. Traces the opening of news positions beginning with Pauline Frederick in 1953 through the date of publication, 1976. The text includes interviews with women who pioneered the field. Gelfman addresses the educational background of the women interviewed, their family background (including support and lack of it), career steps with chronology, salary history, and experiences in newsrooms. Includes a worthy chapter on "Career Guidance and Advice," based on interviews from notable news women.

Gellhorn, Martha (1988). The Face of War. New York: Atlantic Monthly Press.

A compilation of her work abroad during wars and insurrections -- Spain, Finland, China, Europe during World War II, Java, Viet Nam, Central America, Israel and the Six Day War. Poignant comments help bring the sadness and ugliness of war to the reader.

---- (1988). The View From the Ground. New York: Atlantic Monthly Press.

A collection of her peace-time reporting over 50 years. One article has not been published before, "Beautiful Day of Dissent," a work from the 1970s. All are grouped by decade, from the 1930s to 1980s. She follows each section with editorial comment, which serves as solid reading for understanding the work in its historical context.

Geyer, Georgie Anne (1983). Buying the Night Flight. The Autobiography of a Woman Foreign Correspondent. New York: Delacorte Press/Seymour Lawrence.

An interesting book; however, Geyer is not an often-mentioned name in existing texts on women journalists. She paved considerable ground in her Middle East and Latin American coverage. She was a UPI and Chicago Daily News reporter. An interesting perspective on using feminine wiles to get ahead and get the story.

Goodman, Ellen (1985). Keeping in Touch. New York: Summit Books.

A collection of her columns that span 1980-85. In view of the fact that few full-length documents exist that are written by columnists, it becomes a necessary text for addressing that specialization area.

#Gunig, Larissa (1989). The 'Glass Ceiling' Effect on Mass Communication Students. In Pamela J. Creedon (Ed.) Women in Mass Communication, Challenging Gender Values (pp. 125-147). Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

Cites the disparity between women being tenured and/or promoted and the statistics for men. Women's lack of tenure harms academe and students in various ways: students (female) lack role models; lack of tenured females reinforces hegemony; students lack a long-term anchor to her alma mater; mentoring (for women's students) is difficult to gain because women are so overburdened in trying to be tenured; and the curriculum lacks a woman's viewpoint.

#Henry, Susan (1989). Changing Media History Through Women's History. In Pamela J. Creedon (Ed.) Women in Mass Communication, Challenging Gender Values (34-57). Creedon, Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

Calls for studies of women based on wider trends and values, not just bibliographies. The author calls for an integration of knowledge about women in journalism into the wider development of the profession: (1) provide socio-cultural context for women's lives; (2) note the differences among women's work just as researchers do men's; (3) ascertain why works from feminists in the journalism field have not been created; (4) and familial, friendship, and professional networks should be explored concerning these women.

#Johnson, Sammye (1989). Magazines, Women's Employment and Status in the Magazine Industry. In Pamela J. Creedon (Ed.) Women in Mass Communication, Challenging Gender Values (pp.195-213). Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

Johnson calls for the need to develop clear definitions about what magazines are and what their purpose serves in society. She seeks ways to develop specific methodological approaches to the study of magazines. She also suggests studies be developed on the SES of magazine professionals.

#Lafky, Sue (1989). Economic Equity and the Journalistic Work Force. In Pamela J. Creedon (Ed.) Women in Mass Communication, Challenging Gender Values (164-179). Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

Wages for journalists have declined since an increasing number of women have entered the work force. A topic worth further exploration.

#Lazier-Smith, Linda (1989). Advertising, Women's Place and Image. In Pamela J. Creedon (Ed.) Women in Mass Communication, Challenging Gender Values (247-260). Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

Advertising images do not reflect any change in women's roles or perspectives--that is, images support the traditional society. She weakly suggests research be developed to ask image-makers to "rise to new levels of awareness."

McBride, Mary Margaret (1960). Out on the Air. New York: Doubleday and Co. Inc.

An interesting book, and a clear-sighted look at the world a woman had to work within as a radio journalist prior to the 1960s. Interesting anecdotes of how one woman dealt with an entire station

staff of men. Also provides useful insight into the forbidden words and concepts of broadcasting history through1954.

McCarthy, Mary (1974). The Seventeenth Degree. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc.

She went to South Vietnam for the New York Review in 1966. While she considered herself a novelist and a political essayist, she provides searing insights into the struggle she encountered trying to be objective and rational. While she is not considered a professional journalist, her work is significant in that it reveals a women's innermost struggle with a world in disarray. Secondly, it provides an excellent comment on journalism. She met up with many of the stellar male and female reporters of the period. Her comments on those reporters and their coldness toward the agony encountered there is truly enlightening.

Marzolf, Marion (1977). Up From the Footnote. A History of Women Journalists.New York: Hastings House, Publisher.

More of a survey work, less in-depth, cause/effect work. However, it provides an excellent resource for finding names and events. It is basically a good fallback for identifying certain women and the period and the news organizations for which they worked. Excellent in documentation and bibliography. A great help in research.

#Matabane, Paula (1989). Strategies on Studying Women of Color in Mass Communication. In Pamela J. Creedon (Ed.) Women in Mass Communication, Challenging Gender Values (pp. 116-124). Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

Black women face triple jeopardy in the workplace: race, gender, and social class. She calls for scientific research on standards of beauty, for example--how do such standards effect black women? What role has mass media played in the black women's feeling of "ugliness"? She maintains that the best way to test the function of democracy is to observe the impact on institutions and minorities. Black women are the most under employed, under educated, and culturally isolated, she finds.

May, Antoinette. (1983). Witness to War, A Biography of Marguerite Higgins. New York: Beaufort Books, Inc.

An excellent biography of a truly excellent journalist. The text includes many interviews with Higgins' contemporaries and friends. Interviews with former editors reveals her determination to cover the big stories in Europe, Korea and Viet Nam.

Paisner, Daniel (1989). The Imperfect Mirror, Inside Stories of Television Newswomen. New York: William Morrow and Company, Inc.

A dandy survey of opinions and experiences of 24 television reporters, some on the national scene, some in major metros. Makes available some comments, outlooks, and biographical information on such newswomen as Sylvia Chase, Connie Chung, Christine Craft, Deborah Norville, Diane Sawyer, Lesley Stahl, and Mary Alice Williams. The format of the book is excellent and provides comfortable, non-scholarly reading. An excellent text, primarily for the observations of these successful women on the state of journalism for them, and what's ahead for young women who are moving into major markets.

#Rakow, Lana (1989). A Bridge to the Future, Re-Visioning Gender in Communication. In Pamela J. Creedon (Ed.) Women in Mass Communication, Challenging Gender Values (pp. 299-312). Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

She sees journalism as an avenue for societal change. She believes that if male and female students were taught to be sensitive to gender issues at a societal level, then things may begin to change. However, she believes the system has not changed despite women's efforts to do so.

#Rhodes, Jane (1989). Strategies on Studying Women of Color, Overview and Theoretical Framework. In Pamela J. Creedon (Ed.) Women in Mass Communication, Challenging Gender Values (pp. 111-116). Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

She calls for more and more substantial research on black women--primarily to isolate causes and effects of racial oppression. Is an excellent introduction to research in this area.

Rogers, Sherbrooke (1985). Sarah Josepha Hale, A New England Pioneer. Granthan, New Hampshire: Tompson and Ritter.

A few extra tidbits about Hale, but nothing extraordinary here. However, it is rewarding to have some of her original Godey's Lady's Book writings combined into one text.

Rollin, Betty (1982). Am I Getting Paid for This? A Romance About Work. Boston and Toronto: Little, Brown and Company.

Rollin's book is a delightfully poignant biography. Her writing is superlative, as well as her openness about the struggle of surviving in a man's world.

Ross, Ishebel (1936). Ladies of the Press, The Story of Women in Journalism by an Insider. New York and London: Harper and Brothers.

An excellent text, as well as an excellent tale full of poignancy and insight. She defines (humorously, it might be added) what the "front page girl" was, who were the first to make it there on metros, the pay, and the lifestyle. Out of that first step grew the "sob sisters," the travel writer girls, the suffragists--all in all, the types of stories women were asked to cover. Most were not allowed to cover the ugly, bloody news; but, on the other hand, most women turned out to be excellent court reporters. Her work is broad in scope as she follows women reporters gaining access to the White House (president's wife), access to Capitol Hill, column writing and finally the growth of the society page. Excellent resource.

Sanders, Marlene, & Rock, Marcia (1988). Waiting for Prime Time, The Women of Television News. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press.

Although co-written, the book is based on Sanders' experiences. Interviews with Diane Sawyer, Leslie Stahl, Andrea Mitchell, Christine Craft--some true pathfinders. Addresses the standard problems of all women trying to make it: career vs. family. She provides interesting anecdotes about the lack of support among women for other women still aching to get the job at anyone's expense, and the countless hours spent on personnel/budget, not the news. Predicts Barbara Walters will be the only woman who made it to an anchor desk in this century and probably well beyond.

Savitch, Jessica (1982). Anchorwoman. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons.

Not quite as informative as Golden Girl, but interesting for Savitch's own straining to appear perfect. This autobiography seems so shallow in light of her private agony. There are few deep or enduring qualities that can be attached to this text.

#Schamber, Linda (1989). Women in Mass Communication Education, Who is Teaching Tomorrow's Communicators? In Pamela J. Creedon (Ed.) Women in Mass Communication, Challenging Gender Values (pp. 148-163). Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

Seventy-six percent of the faculty now teaching tomorrow's communicators are men. However, the students those males teach are 60 percent women. The author calls for the recruitment of more women graduate students and the necessity of preparing them for academe.

Schilpp, Madelon G., & Murphy, Sharon (1983) Great Women of the Press. Carbondale and Edwardsville: Southern Illinois University.

The text includes biographies of 18 women journalists, the first Elizabeth Timothy (1700-1757), and the last Marguerite Higgins (1920-1966). All are print journalists, or, as Bourke-White's inclusion indicates, photojournalists. Excellent resource.

Settel, Irving (1967). A Pictorial History of Radio. New York: Gosset and Dunlap.

A wealth of information from news, commentators, and dramatists. Also wonderful photos. Serves as an excellent text in providing background on some women journalists not often mentioned in other texts.

Smith, Conrad, Freden, Eric S. & Ann Ferguson, Carroll Ann (Spring 1988). Sex Discrimination in Earnings and Story Assignments Among TV Reporters. Journalism Quarterly, (pp. 3-11).

Discrimination does exist in the broadcasting world for women; however, such a statement is a moderate one and weakly substantiated by Smith's research. Some distinctive findings, however, are that: the older the reporter, the larger the market, the better return for men. Not so for women. However, women benefit more than men if they have won awards. Women benefit more from an advanced education, particularly at master's level.

#Smith, Marilyn Crafton (1989). Women's Movement Media and Cultural Politics. In Pamela J. Creedon (Ed.). Women in Mass Communication, Challenging Gender Values (pp. 278-298). Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

Basically cites how women's movement of 1970s has died off--nothing stimulates its growth today. She suggests networking and media use as an answer to jumpstarting the women's movement.

#Steeves, H. Leslie (1989). Gender and Mass Communication in a Global Context. In Pamela J. Creedon (Ed.) Women in Mass Communication, Challenging Gender Values (pp. 83-111). Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

The author addresses gender and media relations around the world. Develops the commonalties and differences that should concern feminist researchers: 1) power of transnational economy and its support of women's oppression; 2) American economic values impressed upon other cultures; 3) women's employment and Western developmental programs (relationship); and 4) studies of women's resistance in other nations.

Stilson, Janet (September 1,1990). Stuck on the Ground Floor. Channels, (pp. 20-26).

Some terribly cogent comments about the state of television news: the "Cosmo-girl factor." The author is testimony to the shallowness of television journalists and those students who seek to enter broadcasting. A serious indictment of the television genre.

Tarbell, Ida (1985). All in a Day's Work. Boston: G.K. Hall and Company.

Wonderful reading, fast and revealing. Is almost a textbook on reporting at the advanced level. Useful to the classroom, as well as the researcher.

Underwood, Agness (1949). Newspaper Woman. New York: Harper Brothers.

The city editor of the Los Angeles Herald-Express.Underwood has made a great contribution to the field, and help blaze the path for women on the crime beat. However, her arrogance against women, and her calculated effort to demonstrate her differentness (as it were) from women at home belies the soppy conclusion as she worries about a son-in-law in the Air Force. A schizophrenic work, but interesting in its psycho-dynamic underpinnings.

Weiner, Richard (1979). Syndicated Columnists. New York: Richard Weiner, Inc.

Interesting historical survey. The book includes a compilation of the history of women columnists, from advice to the lovelorn to household hints. The longest running advice column was written by Emily Post, 1930-1960. Gives history and interpretation of many columnists, specifically Ann Landers and Abigail VanBuren, Erma Bombeck.

White, Paul (1947). News on the Air. New York: Harcourt Brace and Company.

Basically a compilation of advice on how to get into radio and the subsequent history of the medium. Useful, too, in its sexist attitude on how to get along with the "girls" on the news staff.

Woodruff, Judy, & Maxa, Kathleen (1982). This is Judy Woodruff at the White House. Reading, Massachusetts: Addison-Wesley Publishing Co.

Not really an autobiography, just stories from her career. Women were regarded as "window dressing" during her early career, and suggests they may still be such to many colleagues. Useful from a historical standpoint.

#indicates citation from Women in Mass Communication, a compilation of articles from the feminist viewpoint.